BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Wednesday, 21 October 1992, immediately following the Closed Session, in Room AD 308, Loyola Campus

Attendance

Present: Mr. R.K. Groome, Chairman, Mr. B. Aune, Dr. M. Brian, Ms. L. Brodrick, Dr. R.M.H. Cheng, Mr. D. D'Alessandro, Ms. M. Donaldson, Me P.A. Gervais, Prof. G. Gross, Dr. H. Habib, Mr. P. Howlett, Mr. N. Kaminaris, Dr. P. Kenniff, Rector, Dr. V.H. Kirpalani, Mr. R. Laughlin, Me G. Lengvari, Sister E. McIlwaine, Ph.D., Mr. D.W. McNaughton, Ms. S. O'Connell, Dr. R.H. Pallen, Mr. R. Renaud, Ms. M. Roland, Mr. J.H. Smith, Mr. R. Synning, Ms. S. Woods

Officers of the University: Dr. C.L. Bertrand, Dr. M. Cohen, Dr. R. Sheinin, Me B. Gaudet

Absent: Mr. A. Benedetti, Mr. J.N. Economides, Mr. L. Ellen, Mr. H. Farias, Mr. P. Ivanier, Mr. F. Knowles, Mr. R. Lawless, Ms. C. Nero, Mr. H. Santos, Right Hon. J. Sauvé, Chancellor, Mr. W.W. Stinson, Mr. C.I. Taylor, Me M. Vennat, Mr. G. Vézina

Guests: Father S. Drummond, s.j., Hon. A.B. Gold, Mr. K. Whittingham

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES

BG-92-9-D84 Letter from the Nominating Committee, recommending award of the title "Chancellor Emeritus" to the Honourable Alan B. Gold
BG-92-9-D85 Proposed Interim Policy on Temporary Suspension
BG-92-9-D86 List of proposed changes to membership of Standing Committees

1. Call to Order

The Open Session convened at 9:27 p.m.

1.1 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman waived his remarks.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

1.3 Approval of the Minutes

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (McNaughton, Laughlin), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R92-94 THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board, held on 23 September 1992, be approved.

2. Business arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

3. Appointment of the Honourable A.B. Gold as a "Chancellor Emeritus", and his election to the Corporation of Concordia University

Mr. McNaughton, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, introduced a motion to award the title "Chancellor Emeritus" to the Honourable Alan B. Gold, Concordia's Chancellor until 30 September 1992, a motion enthusiastically received.

Dr. Kenniff said it had been a pure joy to work with a person of such wisdom and good humour. Alan Gold, the Rector revealed, had been both a friend and father figure, sharing the vast knowledge he had acquired throughout his diversified career. As a lawyer and professor of law, as a judge, as chairman of the Board at McGill University, Alan Gold had developed a profound understanding of institutional governance. Past-Chairman Me Gervais praised him as a magnificent Chancellor whose wisdom has contributed much to the University. The Chairman, Mr. Groome, presented the past-Chancellor with a modest gift from the Board of Governors.

In return, our honoured guest had kind words for Concordia as he accepted the memento; even the most difficult times had not undermined the pleasure, he said, of working with such a fine group of people.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (McNaughton, Kenniff), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R92-95 WHEREAS the Board of Governors, at its meeting of 15 March 1989, and upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, established the status of Chancellor Emeritus as a way of honouring retired Chancellors who have made a significant contribution to Concordia University;

WHEREAS the Honourable Alan B. Gold was Chancellor of Concordia University from 5 February 1987 to 30 September 1992; and

WHEREAS the Honourable Alan B. Gold has made a remarkable contribution to the life and development of Concordia University;

BE IT RESOLVED that, on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Honourable Alan B. Gold be awarded the title of Chancellor Emeritus, and be elected a member of the Corporation of Concordia University.

4. Approval of an Interim Policy on Temporary Suspension

Dr. Kenniff introduced the proposed policy. He explained that discussions had recently taken place among senior administrators at Concordia in response to a number of incidents of threatening behaviour. The Rector offered an example in which, even though a faculty member had pressed criminal charges against a student, the University had no legitimate means to remove that student from circulation within the University.

The proposed policy, drafted on the same model as McGill's emergency procedures, would allow removal of an individual for five days, during which time a Hearing Board would convene to evaluate the grounds for suspension. If the Hearing Board upholds the suspension, a further hearing will be held within ten days; if not, the complaint will be directed to the Sexual Harassment Officer or the Code Administrator for resolution.

Under the Code of Conduct (Non-Academic), and if such is the sanction recommended by the Hearing Board, the Rector is empowered to suspend or expel a student, but, said Dr. Kenniff, he had only used that authority in exceptional circumstances and has never delegated his responsibility in that respect. For the serious cases we are faced with, the Code provisions are inadequate because the procedures prescribed are time-consuming; a quick decision to remove an individual from the University is not possible. Dr. Kenniff explained that the purpose of the proposed policy, therefore, would be to establish interim measures; in the long run, another way might be found to address the problem.

Several questions were answered by the Rector. Authority to identify the circumstances in which an individual's behaviour warrants suspension would rest with the Rector, or his delegate, after consultation with a Dean or other senior administrator involved. Although each case would be seen to have unique parameters, the proposed policy would be applied only in cases involving physical intimidation and clearly threatening behaviour. Dr. Kenniff assured the Board that terms and sanctions under the policy would treat staff and students equally.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Kenniff, Smith), it was CARRIED with one opposed and one abstention:

R92-96 WHEREAS, in light of recent events, Concordia University is aware of the need to be able, in emergency situations, to protect members of the University community from harassment, intimidation and disruptive behaviour;

WHEREAS, although specific collective agreements covering the unionized employees do address problems of disruptive or threatening behaviour, the Code of Conduct (Non-Academic) has no provision which would enable the University to suspend any other employee or a student who threatens the safety and security of others;

WHEREAS an Interim Policy on Temporary Suspension has been prepared and is being proposed for approval by the Board;

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board approve the Interim Policy on Temporary Suspension, as set out in Board Document BG-92-9-D85, which authorizes the Rector or a delegate to suspend a student or employee when that individual's behaviour warrants suspension, pending the decision of a Hearing Board which shall be convened, within five days of the suspension order, to assess the validity of the suspension; and

THAT the said policy be effective immediately and expire when emergency suspension is provided for in a revised Code of Conduct (Non-Academic).

5. Adoption of changes to the membership of the Standing Committees

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (McIlwaine, Kirpalani), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R92-97 THAT the membership of the Standing Committees of the Board, as established by Resolution R92-75 on 17 June 1992, be modified as follows:

That Dr. Peter Pitsiladis replace Dr. V.H. Kirpalani as a member of the Budget Committee and of the Graduation Ceremonies Committee;

That Me Manon Vennat replace Me George Lengvari as a member of the Collective Bargaining Committee; and

That Ms. Susan Woods be appointed Vice-Chairwoman of the Graduation Ceremonies Committee.

6. Reports of the Standing Committees

6.1 University Advancement Committee

In the absence of the Committee's Chairman, Mr. Ellen, Dr. Cohen reported on the 5 October meeting of the Advancement Committee. At that meeting, the Committee discussed the Capital Campaign, focusing on pre-campaign expenditures which included the recent purchase of a fundraising software system. The proposed Endowment Policy was examined, highlighting selection of a financial manager and the development of accounting policies by Treasury.

Plans for the Annual Giving program were discussed, as well as various Alumni activities, the Homecoming and the creation of the "Friends of the Library" programme to raise funds for new acquisitions.

6.2 Benefits and Pension Committees

In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, Dr. Cohen reported.

At its meeting of 1 October 1992, the Pension Committee made preparations for its second Annual General Meeting pursuant to Bill 116, to be held on 27 October 1992.

The Benefits Committee also met on 1 October 1992, and discussed two matters: (i) The text of the Pension Plan would have to be revised by 1 January 1993, in compliance with Law C-52, the new federal legislation. Proposed revisions will be brought to the Board for approval in December; and (ii) Rates for health insurance would increase significantly on 1 November 1992, raising the University's costs of providing health insurance to employees.

7. Report of the Rector

Dr. Kenniff informed the Board that the Conseil des Universités, an advisory body created by Québec statute to advise the Minister of Higher Education and Science, would hold its regular monthly meeting at Concordia on 22 October 1992, and meet with various members of the University community on 23 October. The Rector advised that the visit, the

Conseil's first to Concordia in ten years, represented an auspicious opportunity to "toot our horn" because the Conseil is empowered to make recommendations to the Minister about the approval of new academic programmes.
On another subject, Dr. Kenniff announced that Concordia would hold its first Open House on 31 October 1992; he hoped it would become an annual event.

8. Reports of the Vice-Rectors

8.1 Dr. Sheinin noted that three Concordia faculty members had been recognized by prestigious awards and appointments: Dr. Sheila Mason-Mullett (Philosophy) had been appointed second visiting Chair of Ecofeminism at Murdoch University in Sydney, Australia; Prof. Russel Moroziuk (Theological Studies) will attend the University of Kiev, Russia, to develop a curriculum for that University's first course in theological studies; and Dr. Clement Lam (Computer Sciences) was awarded the 28th Lester R. Ford Award for an article he published in the American Mathematical Monthly.

Dr. Sheinin announced, as well, that Dr. Frederick Krantz had completed his term as the corresponding member to the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and had been replaced, in that position, by Dr. Marthe Catry-Verron.

The Vice-Rector proposed that the Board send a letter of recognition to each of these scholars.

8.2 Dr. Bertrand reminded the Board that the official opening of the Webster Library would be celebrated on 26 October 1992, and marked by a public lecture by the esteemed Dr. Vartan Gregorian, president of Brown University and former director of the New York Public Library.

8.3 Dr. Cohen said he had nothing to report.

9. Correspondence

A letter was received from Ms. Elizabeth Horwood, thanking the Board for its encouraging message of sympathy.

10. Any other business

Mr. Groome said a few words about the illustrious career of Dr. V.H. Kirpalani who was attending the last meeting of his current term as a Governor. In addition to his activities on the Standing Committees and his regular contributions to meetings of the Board, Dr. Kirpalani had been and continues to be a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Revision of Rules and Procedures for Evaluation and Advisory Search Committees -a notable commitment. He was warmly thanked.

Ms. Woods encouraged the Governors to remember the Adopt-a-Book programme when looking for a thoughtful gift. A book plate fixed to the inner cover of an "adoptee" will commemorate a special person or event.

11. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, 18 November 1992, at 8:00 a.m. in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus.

12. Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Me Bérengère Gaudet
Secretary of the Board of Governors